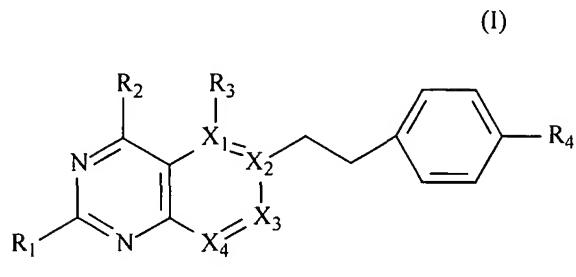


What Is Claimed Is:

1. A process for synthesizing compounds having the formula:



5 wherein R_1 and R_2 are each individually amino or N-alkyl substituted amino; hydroxy; alkoxy; keto; lower alkyl; or a nitrogen or oxygen protecting group;

R_3 is hydrogen; hydroxy; alkoxy; trifluoromethyl alkoxy; halo; sulfhydryl or alkylthio;

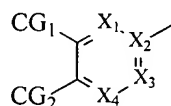
R_4 is hydroxy; alkoxy; or $-C(O)-X$;

X is hydroxy; alkoxy; or an amino acid residue; and

10 X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 are each individually carbon or nitrogen;

said process comprising the steps of:

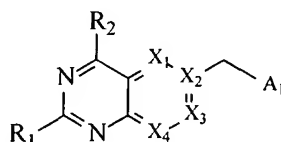
a) providing a starting compound of the formula:



where CG_1 and CG_2 are moieties amenable to an annulation reaction;

15 b) annulating the starting compound to form a 1N, 3N two-ring fused heterocycle;

c) derivatizing the two-ring fused heterocycle at the 6-position to form an intermediate:



where A_1 is a leaving group;

d) adding a derivative of *p*-benzoic acid to the intermediate to form the formula I compound.